



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Help Eliminate **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Human trafficking is the illegal use of vulnerable human beings to make a profit.

Human trafficking knows no boundaries. The crime plagues urban cores as well as rural and suburban communities throughout the world, the United States included. The devastation wrought by traffickers spares no age, gender, ethnicity, race or socioeconomic status. Traffickers rob their victims of their freedom through force, fear, intimidation and false promises.

In Ohio, the Attorney General's Office — through its **Human Trafficking Initiative, Human Trafficking Commission, Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission, Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy** — has made the scourge a priority. The office is actively involved in the work being done to combat human trafficking throughout the state alongside various social-service agencies, law enforcement agencies, nonprofit organizations and anti-human trafficking coalitions.

When it comes to commercial sex exploitation, lawmakers and law enforcement agencies are working together to create long-lasting change that will punish both the traffickers and the buyers of sex and improve the care and services for victims, many of whom are young women or teenage girls.

PROTECTING ★ THE ★ UNPROTECTED

For more information on this topic, visit the Ohio Attorney General Office's website at **www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/HumanTrafficking**.

For law enforcement training, contact the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy by phone at **740-845-2700** or by email at **AskOPOTA@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov**.



All Ohioans can play a role in combating human trafficking by reporting suspicious activity based on these warning signs:

Commercial Sex Exploitation/ Sex Trafficking

The potential victim:

- Appears submissive, fearful or nervous.
- Is not in control of identification documents or money.
- Has inconsistent or well-rehearsed story about where he/she lives, the relationship with the person he/she is with or how he/she traveled to current location.
- Is inappropriately dressed for weather, location or age.
- Is in presence of an overtly controlling or concerned male or female friend or boyfriend/girlfriend.
- Is in possession of multiple hotel key cards, prepaid credit cards or cellphones.
- Shows signs of physical, mental or emotional abuse.
- Is not able to come and go as he/she pleases.

Labor Trafficking

The potential victim:

- Appears to live at the place of employment.
- Is transported in a group by the employer or someone who is part of employer's organization.
- Experiences restricted or monitored movement.
- Is not in control of identification documents.
- Earns wages below the state's minimum wage.
- Is constantly indebted to the employer.
- Shows signs of physical abuse, isolation and starvation.
- Works long hours in poor conditions.



Report Suspicious Activity

Call 9-1-1 if you think someone faces immediate harm; do not intervene. To report other suspicious activity, call the nonemergency number of your local police or the 24-hour

**NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE
(888-3737-888),**

which sends information directly to Ohio's anti-human trafficking response team.



**Ohio Attorney General's
Human Trafficking Initiative**

30 E. Broad St., 23rd floor | Columbus, OH 43215